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Montserrat

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MONTSERRAT

Report for the years 1965 and 1966

LONDON
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1968

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PART I

General Review

Constitutional

There were no constitutional changes during the period under review.

The proposed scheme for the formation of "The West Indies Federation", comprising Barbados and the Leeward (excluding the British Virgin Islands) and Windward Islands in 1965 did not materialise. Negotiations broke down when, in April 1965, Antigua decided against joining the proposed federation and in August of that year Barbados announced that it would seek separate independence.

In December 1965, the Government of the United Kingdom issued a White Paper proposing new constitutional status for the six Territories of Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, St. Christopher Nevis and Anguilla, St. Lucia and St. Vincent. It was proposed that constitutional changes for Montserrat would be considered separately.

Economic

The economic development which started in 1963–64 in all sectors of the economy continued to expand during 1965/66. Sea island cotton continued as the main export crop with exports of fruits and vegetables to the neighbouring islands being maintained throughout the period. The export trade in mangoes and peppers increased during 1965 and exports of these amounted to $3,756 and $6,727 respectively. Local revenue increased in 1965 by more than 25 per cent on the 1964 figures. The total value of imports in 1965 was $4,887,839 (an increase of $868,000 over 1964); the weight of imports increased by approximately 8,000 tons.

In the field of agriculture, in order to encourage more full-time farming, the Government decided to take steps to improve the tenant farmer's security of tenure on his rented land, and further to ensure that the acreage of such holdings were large enough to guarantee viability if correctly farmed.

Real estate development continued on the west of the island and over 100 new homes were built or reconstructions carried out in 1966. The erection of Radio Antilles commercial radio station was completed in 1965 and broadcasting commenced in 1966.

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Extensions were made to two hotels, the Royal Bank of Canada moved into its new modern building, and Barclays Bank, D.C.O. opened a branch in the territory to deal with the increased volume of local commerce.

The growth of the island's tourist trade has led to the strengthening of the Tourist Board and to its affiliation as a full member of the Caribbean Tourist Association.

External Communications

Work on the surfacing, widening and lengthening of the runway at Blackburne Airport began in December 1965, and was nearing completion by the end of 1966. The West Indies Shipping Service maintained its scheduled fortnightly runs between the islands; ships of the Harrison Line brought cargo from Britain twice monthly, and those of the Atlantic and Blue Ribbon Lines, from New York, once a month.

Important Visits

The most memorable event of the period under review was the visit of Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, on 19th February, 1966—the first occasion on which a reigning Monarch has visited the island. Other visitors to the island included Dr. J. M. Liston, Chief Medical Advisor, Ministry of Overseas Development; Mr. M. J. Moynihan M.C., U.K. Deputy High Commissioner, Trinidad; Mr. K. D. S. MacOwan, C.B.E., Animal Health Adviser, Ministry of Overseas Development; Mr. C. G. Gibbs, Commonwealth Office; Mr. Paul O. Herzog, Expert in Telegraph and Telephone Exchange Systems, U.N. Technical Assistance Board; Mr. W. J. Caldow, British High Commissioner, Trinidad; Mr. A. R. Melville, Agricultural Adviser, Ministry of Overseas Development; Mr. W. E. M. Logan, Forestry Adviser, Ministry of Overseas Development; Miss B. Schofield, Nursing Adviser, Ministry of Overseas Development; Mr. Graham Norton, The Sunday Times Magazine; Monsieur Fonscolombe, Consul-General for France, Puerto Rico; Mr. Baldwin, Canadian Deputy Minister of Transport; Mr. P. R. Noakes, Chief Information Officer, Commonwealth Office, Mr. M. J. Macoun, Deputy Overseas Police Adviser, Commonwealth Office.

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PART II

Chapter 1: Population

THE estimated population at the end of 1966 was 14,464. In 1965 it was 14,056 and in 1964 13,885. Statistics of births and deaths, and of arrivals and departures are given below:

	1964	*1965*	*1966*
Mid-year population, estimate	13,729	13,891	14,143
Total live births	364	383	344
Birth rate per 1,000	24.5	27.4	23.7
Deaths	107	120	152
Death rate per 1,000	7.79	8.6	10.5
Infant mortality rate	41.2	54.8	54.8

Arrivals and Departures

Arrivals

Year	*Males*	*Females*	*Total*
1964	3,662	2,292	5,954
1965	4,400	2,920	7,320
1966	6,382	4,459	10,841

Departures

Year	*Males*	*Females*	*Total*
1964	3,597	2,297	5,894
1965	4,366	3,046	7,412
1966	6,362	4,263	10,625

There were 44 marriages during 1966 and 53 in 1965.

Chapter 2: Occupations, Wages and Labour Organisation

EMPLOYMENT

THE following table shows the labour force, aged 14 years and over, classified by industry according to the 1960 census:

Agriculture	1,895
Forestry	3
Fishing	85
Manufacturing	337
Construction	452
Electricity and Water	27
Commerce	255
Transport	144
Services	855
	4,053

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While the main occupation continued to be agriculture, there has been a considerable swing towards all the occupations listed, and in particular to those connected with real estate development, building, construction, transport and services. Agriculture itself tended to become even more of a part-time occupation.

Emigration to the United Kingdom, mainly children of recent emigrants, continued on a reduced scale. The Government's participation in the scheme for placing workers in agricultural employment in St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, continued; forty-five men were engaged in 1965 for St. Croix. It was apparent, however, by the end of 1965, that employment opportunities from this source were decreasing. On the other hand, the number of local employment situations increased considerably in the construction industry, because of real estate development. Four women were recruited in 1965 for domestic work in Canada.

WAGES AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

The wage rates in the principal occupations for 1965 and 1966 were as follows:

Agriculture		*$ per day*
Males		2.60/3.00
Females		1.50
Government Departments (Non-established workers)		
Unskilled:		
(i) Females and boys under 18 years other than apprentices		1.50
(ii) Males 18 years and over		2.60/3.00
Semi-skilled:		3.50
Skilled:		5.20/5.75
Road Foreman:		15% above the maximum rate in the category the foreman supervises
Other Foremen		5.50
Fruit and Vegetable Graders		1.50
Power-plant Operators (Electricity, Ice and Cold Storage)		3.50/4.50

Building Trades:	*1965*	*1966*
Unskilled	$2.50 – $3.25	$2.50 – $3.25
Semi-skilled	$4.00 – $5.00	$4.00 – $5.00
Skilled	$5.00 – $8.00	$8.00 – $12.00
Foremen	7% on the maximum skilled rate.	7% on the maximum skilled rate.

In agriculture, the task or piece-work system as well as the daily wage system are used. When workers are engaged on task work, payment for each task is at the specified daily rate.

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Hours of work in agriculture and in Government Service are eight per day and work performed outside the normal day is paid for at the rate of time and a half.

COST OF LIVING

The following table shows the movements in the retail prices of the principal items of consumption:

Items	*1964* *Dec.* $ c.	*1965* *Dec.* $ c.	*1966* *Dec.* $ c.
Table butter (per lb. tin)	1.20	1.36	1.40
Cooking butter (per lb.)	.64	.68	.68
Cheese (per lb.)	1.40	1.20	1.10
Eggs (each)	.14	.14	.14
Fish, dried and salted, Canadian (per lb.)	.60	.70	.80
Cornmeal (per lb.)	.18	.18	.18
Flour (per lb.)	.17	.17	.16
Lard (per lb.)	.60	.70	.85
Meat, fresh (per lb.)			
Beef	*.75	*.75	*.75
,,	.60		
,,	.32		
Mutton	.60	.60	.60
Goat Meat	.60	.60	.60
Pork	.60	.60	.60
Meat, smoked and cured (per lb.)			
Bacon	2.00	2.00	2.00
Milk, condensed, Nestles (per tin)	.44	.44	.44
Milk, fresh (per bottle)	.12	.12	.14
Edible oil, cotton seed (per bottle)	.85	.85	.90
Potatoes, imported (per lb.)	.30	.30	.30
Rice, Demerara (per lb.):			
Super quality	.19	.20	.20
Second quality	.17	.19	.19
Sugar (per lb.):			
Barbados (washed)	.25	.25	.25
Antigua (washed)	.25	.25	.21
Leeward Islands (crystal)	.16	.16	.16
Onions (per lb.)	.40	.36	.40
Charcoal (per bag)	5.00	5.00	6.00

* according to cuts.

LABOUR RELATIONS

Relations between employers and workers continued to be satisfactory.

LABOUR DEPARTMENT

The staff of the Labour Department for the period under review consisted of a labour Commissioner and one Clerk.

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The labour Commissioner, together with his statutory duties, advises employers and workers on procedure for fostering good relations and for the avoidance and settlement of disputes; he undertakes conciliation when disputes arise.

LABOUR ORGANISATION

During the period under review there were two registered workers' unions.

LABOUR LEGISLATION

The principal labour legislation in force is as follows:

The Labour Ordinance, Cap.314
The Trade Unions Act, Cap.322
The Trade Disputes (Arbitration and Inquiry) Act, Cap.321
The Workmen's Compensation Ordinance, Cap.323
The Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Act, Cap.270
The Employment of Children Prohibition Act, Cap.269
The Labour (Minimum Wage) Act, Cap.315
The Recruiting of Workers Act, Cap.138
The Emigrant Labourers Protection Act, Cap.135
The Emigrants Protection Act, Cap.136
The Protection of Wages Ordinance, No. 6 of 1962

Chapter 3: Public Finance and Taxation

COMPARATIVE figures of revenue and expenditure for 1963 to 1966 are given below:

Revenue	*1963* $	*1964* $	*1965* $	*1966* $
Customs	315,700	482,495	660,714	824,000
Internal Revenue, Excise and Licences	169,077	181,286	247,776	253,800
Fees of Court or Office, etc.	50,621	*11,375	10,669	10,000
Post Office, Telephones, etc.	140,058	212,081	278,868	96,300
Other	343,917	353,366	522,884	764,870
Total Local Revenue	1,019,373	1,240,603	1,720,911	1,948,970
Other (including U.K. Grant-in-Aid and C.D. & W. grants)	1,013,203	1,303,543	849,664	750,000
TOTAL	$2,032,576	$2,544,146	$2,570,575	$2,698,970

* Apparent decrease in Fees of Court revenue in 1964 is solely due to recasting of revenue heads and subheads in the Estimates.

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Expenditure	*1963* $	*1964* $	*1965* $	*1966* $
Public Debt	17,360	17,379	17,231	31,984
Pensions	91,328	97,809	99,827	71,220
Federal Services	—	—	—	—
Administration	57,494	452,733	19,930	112,678
Agriculture	55,774	422,839	331,024	307,222
Water	19,259	20,059	25,279	50,000
Medical and Health	94,508	107,099	117,939	123,800
Hospital and Allied Services	128,368	140,101	148,650	159,118
Education	265,188	296,041	341,025	273,219
Post Office, Telephones, etc.	78,253	188,868	226,217	238,398
Public Works including Electricity and Cold Storage	224,385	227,812	432,487	309,965
Other	880,171	268,729	612,247	864,659
Total Local Expenditure	1,912,356	2,239,469	2,371,856	2,542,263
Other (including C.D. & W. Schemes)	140,199	*501,054	338,198	560,966
TOTAL	$2,052,555	$2,740,523	$2,710,054	$3,103,229

* The 1964 figure in fact relates to capital expenditure on projects financed with local and C.D. & W. funds. In previous years capital expenditure was not divorced from recurrent expenditure and was shown against the various departmental heads.

PUBLIC DEBT

The public debt at the end of 1965 stood at $311,703 and at the end of 1966 at $1,068,137.33, the 1966 figure includes the loan for the improvement of the electricity service.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Liabilities exceeded assets by £129,639 in 1965 and $240,880.41 in 1966.

TAXATION YIELDS

	1963 $	*1964* $	*1965* $	*1966* $
Import Duties	312,752	450,815	616,474	760,000
Export Duties	2,948	†199	6,093	*
Income Tax	96,498	90,312	92,133	105,000
Excise	15,724	13,573	13,208	14,000

* Export duty was abolished with effect from 1/1/66.

† The fall-off in export duties in 1963/64 resulted from the closure of the tomato paste factory and a change in the vegetable and fruit trading pattern from the Government Marketing Depot to huckster exports which are not liable to export duty.

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Import duties were derived mainly from foodstuffs, clothing, tobacco and cigarettes, spirits, sugar, motor vehicles, and building materials. Commonwealth goods are imported into the island at preferential rates, and exports from the island enjoy reciprocal treatment in Commonwealth markets.

At the request of the Montserrat Government, a fiscal survey of the territory was carried out in 1965 by a taxation expert provided under Canadian External Aid. The implementation of the recommendations of the resultant report led to the reduction of income tax from 65% to 20%, the abolition of death duty, export duty and many other minor revenue earning taxes.

In arriving at the chargeable income for tax purposes the following allowances may be claimed:

Earned income relief,
Citizenship abatement,
Allowances for wife, children and dependent relatives,
Life assurance.

Relief from income tax is given to persons who are paying tax in the U.K., in other Commonwealth countries, in the U.S.A. and a few other foreign countries.

See also Chapter 6 for relief given under the Development Incentives Ordinance of 1964.

Chapter 4: Currency and Banking

CURRENCY in use is the unified currency of the British Caribbean Territories of Barbados, Leeward and Windward Islands issued by the Eastern Caribbean Currency Authority in 1965, the notes in circulation being $1, $5, $20 and $100. The Currency Authority is expected to maintain a reserve of external assets consisting of gold, sterling or other convertible currencies of not less than 70% of the value of its notes and coins in circulation. The dollar (E.C.) is fixed at 4*s.* 2*d.*, that is $4.80 to the £ sterling.

The new premises of the Royal Bank of Canada were brought into use in February 1965, and a Branch of Barclays Bank D.C.O. was opened in November, 1965. Both banks offer savings and time deposit facilities. They also carry on a limited amount of mortgage business through their Trustee branches.

The Government Savings Bank had 3,130 depositors with $796,976 to their credit at 31st December, 1965 and 2,908 depositors with $803,879 to their credit at 31st December, 1966.

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Chapter 5: Commerce

THE value of imports, exports (including re-exports) and re-exports for each of the four years from 1962 to 1965 is shown below:

Year	*Imports*	*Exports (including re-exports)*	*Re-exports*
	$	$	$
1962	2,538,440	546,789	147,243
1963	2,743,934	340,397	85,800
1964	4,020,154	321,836	43,070
1965	4,887,839	270,912	53,074

The quantity and value of the main imports and exports during 1965 are as shown below:

Imports	*1965* *Quantity*	*Value*
		$
Flour (100 lb. bags)	15,194	170,106
Fish (other than tinned) (lb.)	189,142	72,079
Rice (180 lb. bags)	2,033	53,179
Sugar, unrefined (lb.)	774,350	97,384
Lumber (ft.)	535,869	182,427
Boots, shoes and slippers (prs.)	51,549	120,108
Cotton piece goods (ctns.)	382	92,730
Rum (gal.)	9,958	47,035
Beer (gal.)	34,618	102,981
Motor Vehicles (No.)	122	284,516
Cement (lb.)	5,308,525	122,694
Rayon piece goods (bales)	68	13,910
Electrical equipment	—	242,370
Soap and Cleansing Preparations (lb.)	113,868	45,338
Medicine and Drugs	—	51,950
Paints (cases)	1,478	44,356

Exports	*1965* *Quantity*	*Value*
		$
Bananas (stems)	15,082	33,093
Raw Lime Juice (gals.)	5,410	5,410
Tomatoes (lb.)	112,060	13,806
Cotton Lint (lb.)	135,160	175,708
Syrup (gals.)	8,840	7,752
Mangoes (lb.)	24,901	3,756
Vegetables (lb.)	124,791	14,371

FOOTNOTE:

(i) Figures for 1966 not yet available.

(ii) The figures shown above for vegetables reflect only those exported through the Government Marketing Depot—a much greater quantity is exported by hucksters; figures for this trade are not available.

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Chapter 6: Production

LAND

A RECENT assessment of land use has been carried out, and provides the following break-down:

	Acres	
Cultivable and arable land	2,572	
Pasture land	3,195	
Forest and other	3,170	
Urban and real estate	2,393	
Area available for agriculture development	11,492	
Screes, ghauts and cliffs	2,458	
TOTAL	25,280	= 39.5 sq. mls.

Of Montserrat's (approximately) 25,000 acres, 1,332 acres have been utilised for real estate development. Of the rest, 10,000 acres are in the hands of owners who are not themselves interested in farming and, for the most part rent their land to peasant farmers.

Weather

Rainfall figures at the Grove Agricultural Station for the past four years have been:

	Inches
1963	55.11
1964	62.95
1965	60.07
1966	52.95

The annual average for the last half-century is about 60.5 inches.

AGRICULTURE

The Department of Agriculture, which has responsibility for forestry, livestock and fisheries is under the Ministry of Trade and Production (which is part of the Chief Minister's portfolio). The department itself is administered by a Director assisted by seven field staff. A livestock officer appointed under a Colonial Development and Welfare scheme completed his contract in July 1966. He was replaced by a veterinary officer later in the year on a two-year contract. The department also had the services of a F.A.O. veterinarian on a temporary assignment for six months during 1965 and 1966.

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Cotton

The following acreages were cultivated by peasants: there was no cotton produced from estates:

1963–64	*1964–65*	*1965–66*	*1966–67*
1,152	912	1,180	1,250

Yields of cotton over the last three crops were as follows:

	1963–64	*1964–65*	*1965–66*
Total Clean Lint (lb.)	150,000	440,760	186,343
Clean Lint per acre (lb.)	130	154	518
Stained Lint % of total crop	10	1.2	1.8

The 1965–66 cotton crop was sold to Britain at a price of $1.30 per pound lint.

The 1966–67 crop was planted late in August and was excellently established due to favourable early rains, but hurricane "Inez," which struck the southern part of the island in September, destroyed some 170 acres and damaged a further 500 acres.

Vegetables

The production of vegetables continued to expand during the period under review. This expansion was stimulated by a ready market being available in Antigua and neighbouring islands with their growing tourist industries. Markets were also available in Canada and Bermuda where some fruits and vegetables were sent by air.

The table below shows only the trade in those vegetables for which statistics are available. In fact, most of the vegetable trade is conducted by hucksters and detailed manifesting of this cargo is not possible.

	1963	*1964*	*1965*	*1966*
Carrots (lb.)	5,651	31,690	4,269	*
Tomatoes (lb.)	101,090	137,949	230,000	60,000 (*estimated*)
Eschallots (lb.)	1,110	2,118	3,819	969
Mangoes (No.)	—	—	45,159	16,360
Peppers (lb.)	—	—	17,493	17,273

* Figures not available

The acreage of sweet potatoes continues to expand, particularly in the northern and southern parts of the island. Approximately 700 acres of sweet potatoes were under cultivation at the end of 1966. The acreage of mixed vegetables is estimated at about 300 acres.

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Bananas

The banana industry suffered some setbacks due to the dry weather. There were 200 acres under cultivation. Exports were valued at $15,523.87 in 1965 and only $4,937.71 in 1966. This decrease in 1966 was due to unfavourable prices at the beginning of the year and the lack of crop insurance. Growers therefore turned their attention from the export market to the local market, with a result that by the end of June, exports were discontinued altogether. The industry was severely hit by hurricane "Inez" which destroyed about 80 per cent of all standing bananas. The Banana Growers' Association sought affiliation with the Windward Islands Banana Association in 1965 but was not accepted as a member.

Land Settlement

The Agricultural Department is responsible for the management of some 2,048 acres under land settlement. These areas are divided into small allotments, which are allocated to 685 settlers. Many are fragmented and many occupied by unproductive tenants. The Ministry proposes that these holdings should be consolidated into economic units.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

The general health of livestock remained satisfactory throughout the period under review, the Government maintaining its stud centres at Parson's, Brade's and Trant's. One cattle shipment of 40 head weighing a total of 32,315 lbs. and valued at $10,987 was exported to Guadeloupe in 1965; in 1966 there were two shipments with a total of 197 animals weighing 83,750 lb. valued at $30,007. A livestock officer was appointed for the whole of 1965, and in the same year a veterinary officer was appointed to this section of the Agricultural Department. The island also benefited from the services of a F.A.O. veterinarian during 1965 and the latter half of 1966.

The recorded number of animals slaughtered in public abattoirs is shown below. However, a considerable number of animals, particularly goats, are slaughtered privately and no statistics of these are available.

	1965	*1966*
Cattle . . .	394	535
Sheep and goats .	225	547
Pigs . . .	244	264

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Estimates, based on the above figures, indicate that the livestock population in December 1966 was as follows:

Cattle	6,000	Head
Goats	5,000	,,
Pigs	2,400	,,
Sheep	3,000	,,

Some improvement was shown in the keeping of privately owned pastures, particularly with the planting of elephant grass and the use of fertiliser. By the end of the period under review, the Agricultural Department had 91 acres established in pangola grass.

During 1965 the Government of Jamaica donated two young bulls—a Jamaica Red and a Jamaica Hope—to Montserrat, and by the end of 1966 plans were finalised for the purchase of a number of Jamaica pedigree cattle, to provide a valuable addition to the stud facilities on the island.

FORESTRY

Early in 1966, the forestry adviser to the Ministry of Overseas Development visited Montserrat and advised the Government on future policy. As a start in implementing this policy a V.S.O. forester attached to the Agricultural Department carried out a survey of forest areas in the territory.

The demarcation of existing forest boundaries was continued, experimental thinning in an area of Honduras mahogany was carried out, and a nursery of Pinus Caribbea was established.

Forestry is closely linked with soil conservation in Montserrat and it is in this field as well as the production of fence poles and rough building material that development is planned.

INDUSTRIES

The production of edible oil, cotton-seed meal and cake used for stock feed and as a fertilizer continued during the period under review. The Government Ginnery; the Farrell's Syndicate's rum distillation plant, the Sugar Mill at Parsons on Otway Settlement producing syrup for export, also continued to operate during the period. The Government also operated a cement block-making machine.

Substantial income tax and customs duties relief is given under the Development Incentives Ordinance No. 9 of 1964 to encourage the establishment and expansion of development enterprises in the territory and to provide for the granting of certain tax concessions to companies engaging in such enterprises. As a result two furniture factories were established during 1966.

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Chapter 7: Social Services

EDUCATION

Primary Education

There are 15 primary schools in the territory: 12 Government schools, one Roman Catholic (grant-aided) school, one Seventh Day Adventist (unassisted) school, and one small fee-paying private school. Attendances over the past three years have been as follows:

	Enrolment	*Average Attendance*	*Percentage*
1964	2,835	2,617	92
1965	2,848	2,591.3	90.9
1966	2,902	2,698	92.9

Primary education is compulsory from 5 to 14 years and is free for all children between 5 and 15 years. The courses in the primary schools lead to the school leaving certificate examination of the Department of Education. The need for a greater interest to be taken in the teaching of handcraft and other technical subjects, becomes more apparent as the island's industrial and economic activities increase. Instruction in home economics or home management, handicraft, woodwork and metalwork was given throughout this period. These phases of the educational programme arouse great enthusiasm among the senior pupils.

Secondary School

There is one secondary school on the island, situated in Plymouth. It was divided into two sections, a senior school and a grammar school, but as from Term I, September 1966, the senior section was abolished and the school became a single unit. All candidates for entry now take a common entrance examination. Fees are payable for both tuition and games. Pupils follow a common curriculum for the first two years after entry, but on reaching Form III they are offered a choice of courses. This change in the system has been introduced in an attempt to meet the varying interests and aptitudes of pupils.

The Principal is responsible for the internal organisation, management and discipline of the school. A school committee advises on policy and management.

Enrolment at the school was 272 in 1965 and 275 in 1966.

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Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh shown arriving at Plymouth on 19th February 1966. The first occasion on which a reigning monarch had visited the island.

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The new primary school for 300 children at Brades, provided under the Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme.

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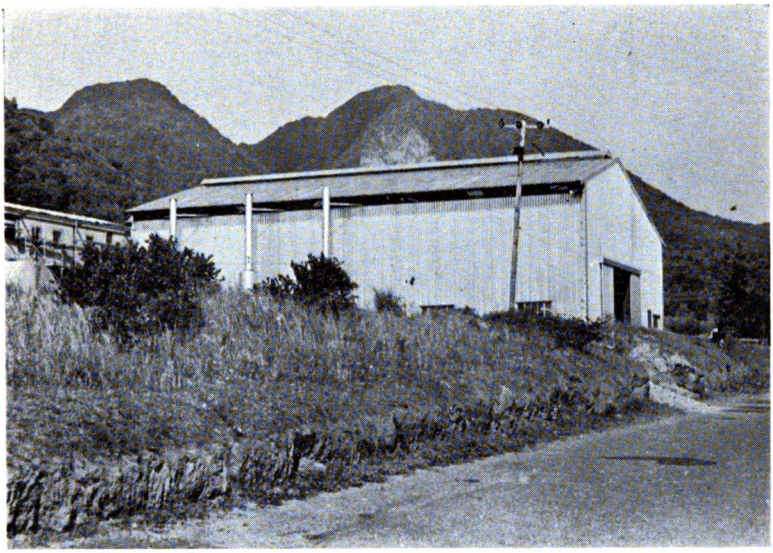
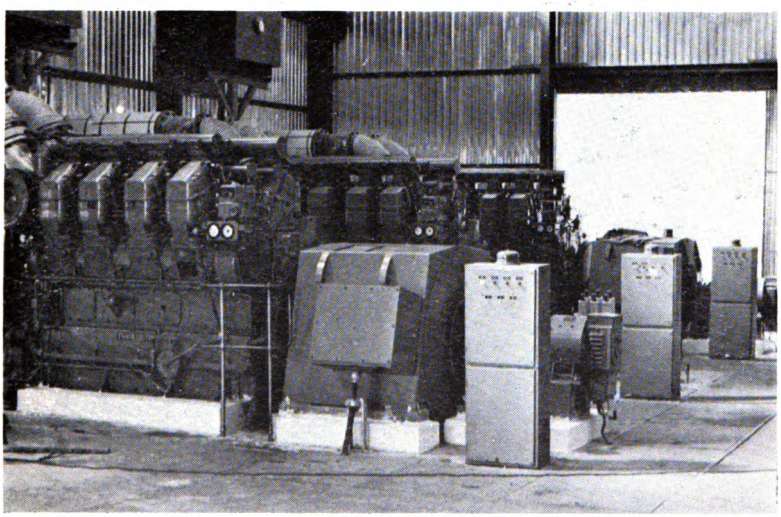


The new electricity power station (2,250 kW) which supplies power to the whole island.



The three 8 SVA English Electric engines installed in the new Power Station.

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Her Majesty the Queen, accompanied by the Chief Minister, Mr. W. H. Bramble, viewing exhibits at the Agricultural Show at Harris Village.

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The school provides instruction up to the Advanced General Certificate of Education standard.

In 1965 there were 42 Government and 14 private scholarship holders attending the school. In September 1966 the Government increased the number of its annual scholarships from seven to ten. At the end of 1966 there were 50 Government and 15 private scholarship holders in attendance.

The extra-curricular activities continue to thrive. Apart from the normal sports and athletics, there is a literary and debating society, a dramatic society and a Cadet Corps. Two new groups, the Spanish Society and the Senior Boys Club, were started in 1965 and both are working satisfactorily.

Teacher Training

The Leeward Islands Teachers' Training College at Golden Grove, Antigua, maintained by the four Governments of the Leeward Islands, continues to provide training courses for teachers. In 1965 there were four primary school teachers attending college in Antigua. Three of these students graduated during the year 1965 and one in 1966. At the end of 1966 there were six primary school teachers in Antigua; one on a Commonwealth bursary in the U.K.; one on a regional scholarship in Puerto Rico and another on a Commonwealth scholarship in the U.K.

Three teachers on Commonwealth bursaries in the United Kingdom completed their training and returned to Montserrat in September 1966.

Through Canadian External Aid, eight teachers in addition to the teacher-trainer were assigned to the Government of Montserrat to aid in its teacher-training programme. They arrived in mid-August 1965 on a two-year assignment. Two of them—one an instructor in woodwork, the other in metalwork—were assigned to give instruction to the primary and secondary school boys. The other six along with the teacher-trainer were assigned to assist in the full-time training of 15 probationary teachers at a training centre. In their off-periods from the centre, the Canadian teachers undertook method training in the primary schools.

The Ministry of Overseas Development in co-operation with the University of the West Indies Institute of Education invited 10 teachers from Montserrat to participate in a Teachers' Workshop Programme held in Barbados in August/September, 1966.

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General

Through the appointment of a dentist, the dental service to school children was maintained during the latter part of 1965 and throughout 1966. There has been an improvement in the dental health of the children.

UNICEF milk and yeast biscuits bought with local funds have been most valuable in providing a mid-morning snack for needy children.

Expenditure on education over the four years from 1963 to 1966 was as follows:

	1963	*1964*	*1965*	*1966*
	$	$	$	$
Primary Education	210,238	239,949	254,925	240,488
Secondary Education	62,647	56,292	76,945	83,994
	272,885	296,241	331,970	324,482

Adult Education

Much voluntary work has been done in the field of adult education. In addition, the extra-mural department of the University of the West Indies extended its programme of classes throughout the island, and appointed a resident tutor for Montserrat during the period under review.

Library

At the end of 1966 the registered membership was 1,046. The total stock of books was 22,790.

Children attending town schools are allowed to use the public library, which has a children's section, the membership of which was 994 at the end of 1966. Throughout the island the adult circulation of books as at 31st December 1966 was 13,376 including 2,441 non-fiction and the circulation of children's books was 4,438 including 1,004 non-fiction, making a total circulation of 17,814.

Many villagers continued to enjoy the library facilities which were made available to them through deposit centres in the rural areas.

PUBLIC HEALTH

During the period under review, the island continued, as in previous years, to enjoy freedom from any serious epidemic disease. There were minor epidemics of chicken pox and there was an out-break of gastro-enteritis in March—May, 1965, mainly involving infants and children.

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The routine welfare clinics for infants, pre-school children, expectant and nursing mothers, and the district medical officers' clinics continued their activities.

The distribution through the health centre services of dried skimmed milk supplied by UNICEF, was continued. Expectant and nursing mothers, infants and pre-school children received this valuable supplement intended to combat dietary deficiencies and malnutrition. This has proved to be a valuable supplement to the general low-protein diet, and also an incentive to attend the clinics.

The *Aedes Aegypti* mosquito eradication campaign continued to operate with assistance from Development and Welfare funds and technical advice from PAHO/WHO. A survey of the entire island was carried out during the period under review. Five of the 33 localities were found positive, and were still positive at the end of 1965. The index of infestation in these localities remained low.

During the period, Montserrat had visits from a team of PAHO/WHO, UWI Consultants, headed by Dr. P. I. Boyd; Miss Nita Barrow and Miss Marie Matthews, W.H.O. Nursing Consultants; Dr. J. Chopra and Dr. K. W. Patwary, W.H.O. Statistical Consultants; Mr. J. Stamp, Mr. E. Landauer and Mr. R. Mark, Sanitary Engineers. A paediatric medical team from Toronto and the U.W.I. visited the island to discuss the prevention and treatment of gastro-enteritis.

Diseases

The incidence of certain infectious and systemic diseases is indicated in the succeeding sub-paragraphs:

(*i*) *Pulmonary tuberculosis.* Six cases were reported during 1965 and seven in 1966. All were admitted to the Glendon Hospital Isolation Ward for treatment. There was one death from this disease in 1965.

(*ii*) *Disease of the sense organs.* Fifteen cases were treated in 1966 as compared with nine in 1965.

(*iii*) *Mental illness.* As there is no observation ward at the Glendon Hospital, mental cases not amenable to treatment in the general ward of the hospital are admitted for observation to Her Majesty's Prison and, if certified, are transferred to the Mental Hospital at Antigua. There was one case during the period under review.

(*iv*) *Diseases of the circulation.* Twenty-seven cases were treated in 1965 and nineteen cases in 1966.

(*v*) *Diseases of the respiratory system.* Twenty-seven cases were treated in 1965 and four in 1966.

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(*vi*) *Diseases of the digestive system.* Sixteen cases were treated in 1965 and twenty cases in 1966.

(*vii*) *Diseases of infancy.* Six cases were treated in 1965 and thirty-five in 1966.

Medical, Public Health and Sanitary Services

The senior medical officer administers the medical, public health and sanitary services, including the Glendon Hospital (69 beds), also three health centres and seven health outposts at which facilities are provided for the examination and treatment of patients suffering from general medical and minor surgical conditions, as well as for pre-natal and infant welfare clinics and preventative measures in the form of immunizations against smallpox, diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, poliomyelitis and typhoid. There is also a midwifery service; a sanitary service for the inspection of premises, food, etc., and the control of insect-borne diseases; an infirmary for the poor and aged, medical care at the prison, port health supervision, dental inspection and attention at the primary schools.

The island is divided into two medical districts. The medical superintendent of the hospital is responsible for district I which includes the town district, the southern and south-central sections of the island. The medical officer of district II is responsible for the remaining areas.

The establishment of the Glendon Hospital during the period comprised the senior medical officer, a medical officer district II, a surgeon specialist, a dental surgeon, a matron, a superintendent of public health nursing, one charge nurse, seven staff nurses, 14 student nurses, one dispenser, one laboratory technician, one radiographer and a housekeeper. Courses for nurses and midwives are provided locally under the supervision of the matron, in addition to courses and seminars provided by W.H.O. and Commonwealth Scholarship. The staff is also assisted by the services of a nursing sister provided under the Graduate Voluntary Service Overseas Scheme.

SOCIAL WELFARE

The Public Assistance Committee administered the Government grant, supplemented by voluntary contributions for providing weekly relief allowances to the aged, the poor and needy. In addition The Old People's Welfare Association, formed in the latter half of 1965, assisted by providing medical and nursing care for old persons confined to their homes. The Government also maintained the infirmary where the aged and infirm who have no means of subsistence or no one to care for them are looked after.

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The local branches of the British Red Cross Society and the St. John Ambulance Brigade continued their valuable activities. The youth movements, i.e. Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, Junior Red Cross and church groups of young people, reported satisfactory progress during the period under review.

The Montserrat Branch of the British Red Cross Society extended its welfare services by setting up a workshop for blind and disabled persons in the community. The workshop was started by a voluntary occupational therapist sent out by London headquarters, and the Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind is assisting by meeting part of the wages of the local supervisor. The branch also received a gift of a mini-bus from the London Rotarians to transport the disabled to the workshop.

The Young Women's Christian Association, opened a branch in Montserrat in 1965. This organisation concentrates on school leavers classes in an effort to assist young women in taking their place in community life. Their activities also include literary classes for adults and the holding of *ad hoc* courses for the cultural education of school leavers and others.

There are no probation services.

Chapter 8: Legislation

IMPORTANT legislation enacted during the period under review was as follows:

The Advertisement Regulation. Ordinance No. 2 of 1965 seeks to regulate and control the erection of boardings and the exhibition of advertisements in the territory.

The Currency. Ordinance, No. 4 of 1965 which repealed the Currency Ordinance, 1959 and implemented the provisions of the British Caribbean Currency Agreement, 1964.

The Currency (No. 2). Ordinance No. 5 of 1965 to implement the provisions of the East Caribbean Currency Agreement, 1965.

The Income Tax (Amendment). Ordinance No. 8 of 1965 which increased the allowances to individuals, wives and children and reduced the rate of tax on chargeable incomes of individuals and companies.

The Customs Duties (Amendment). Ordinance No. 9 of 1965 which repealed the Customs Surcharge Ordinance, 1961 and enacted a new Tariff which increased the duty on luxury goods and decreased import duty on essentials.

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The Property Tax. Ordinance No. 12 of 1965 which makes provision for the levying of a property tax on lands and other property; assessment to be based on the annual rental value of the hereditament and the rate of tax will be fixed annually by Order made by the Administrator.

The Development Incentives (Amendment). Ordinance No. 15 of 1965 to provide that the Development Incentives Ordinance 1964, shall apply not only to companies incorporated under the Companies Act but also to individuals.

The Minerals (Vesting). Ordinance No. 16 of 1965 which makes provision for the vesting in the Crown of all minerals in the island and to make provision for matters incidental thereto or connected therewith.

The Stamp Duty (Cheques). Ordinance No. 19 of 1965 which seeks to validate and legalize stamps printed on cheque forms provided by the Royal Bank of Canada at its office in the island for the purpose of duties under the Stamp Act and to provide for the composition of such duties by bankers in the island.

The Building Societies. Ordinance No. 23 of 1965 to provide for the incorporation and regulation of building societies and matters incidental thereto.

The Government Housing Loans. Ordinance No. 24 of 1965 to provide for the making of loans to certain persons in the employ of Government and of certain organisations to assist them in acquiring providing or improving housing accommodation for themselves and their families and in discharging encumbrances and charges.

The Electricity Loan (Royal Bank of Canada). Ordinance No. 25 of 1965 providing for the raising of a loan from the Royal Bank of Canada for the purpose of constructing an electric power station and the extension of the electricity service.

The Hotels Tax. Ordinance No. 26 of 1965 levying a tax on hotel and guest-house proprietors in respect of each guest per night residing in a hotel or guest-house.

The Town and Country Development Planning Control. Ordinance No. 2 of 1966 which makes provision for the control of the development of land in the island.

The Landholding Control. Ordinance No. 9 of 1966 seeks to control and regulate ownership of land and mortgages on land.

The Companies Act (Amendment). Ordinance No. 10 of 1966 makes provision for the registration under the Act of companies engaged in banking and insurance; the issue of redeemable preference shares

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by companies registered under the Act, for the purpose of raising capital from time to time; the filing of copies of accounts with the annual return made to the Registrar by both private and public companies, so that information concerning the financial position of the company may be easily obtained; and the registration under the Act of companies incorporated outside Montserrat but carrying on business within the territory.

The Stamp Act (Amendment). Ordinance No. 13 of 1966 which abolishes Stamp Duty on the estates of deceased persons.

The Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Limited (Telephone and Telex System). Ordinance No. 14 of 1966 to provide for the maintenance, operation and extension of the telephone system of Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Limited.

Chapter 9: Justice, Police and Prisons

JUSTICE

The courts of law in Montserrat are:

(i) The Supreme Court of the Windward Islands and Leeward Islands in its criminal and civil jurisdiction.

(ii) The British Caribbean Court of Appeal which came into existence on the dissolution of the Federal Supreme Court of the West Indies in 1962. This Court hears Appeals from the Supreme Court of the Windward Islands and Leeward Islands.

(iii) The Court of Appeal of the Windward Islands and Leeward Islands, which hears appeals from the Court of Summary Jurisdiction and from the Magistrates' Court.

(iv) The Court of Summary Jurisdiction which provides a relatively inexpensive and summary procedure for claims not exceeding $720.

(v) The Magistrates' Court which has minor criminal and civil jurisdiction and hears preliminary inquiries into indictable cases.

(vi) The Juvenile Court in which the Magistrate sits with two assessors to deal with juvenile offenders.

(vii) The Coroner's Court.

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The Supreme Court sits three times a year in the Montserrat Circuit in the months of March, July and November, and is presided over by a Judge of the Supreme Court resident in Dominica. The sitting of the Court of Summary Jurisdiction which is presided over by the same Judge usually takes place immediately after the sitting of the Supreme Court.

Supreme Court

On the criminal side, sixteen indictable cases were filed in 1966. There were fifteen adjudications. The following table shows the classification of major crimes for the years 1964, 1965 and 1966.

	1964	*1965*	*1966*
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	3	4	2
Home breaking and larceny	5	1	3
Larceny	2	3	2
Burglary	—	—	3
Receiving stolen property	1	1	—
Forgery	—	1	1
Unlawful carnal knowledge	—	2	2
Homicide	—	1	—
Wounding with intent	1	1	1
Causing death by dangerous driving	—	—	1
Shooting with intent	—	—	1
Arson	—	1	—
Indecent assault	2	1	—

The results of the cases were as follows:

	1964	*1965*	*1966*
Nolle Prosequi	3	1	2
Acquitted	5	3	1
Convicted:			
Capital Punishment	—	1	—
Imprisoned	8	8	10
Fined	1	—	—
Bound over or put on probation	1	3	2
Awaiting trial	—	—	1

On the civil side of the Supreme Court, fourteen cases were filed and in the Court of Summary Jurisdiction, twenty cases were filed.

In 1966 there were seventeen appeals filed from decisions in the Magistrates' Court—fifteen in its criminal and two in its civil jurisdiction. Of the seventeen appeals filed sixteen were heard.

Magistrates' Court, Plymouth and Cudjoe Head

1,081 adjudications were made in 1965 and 1,010 in 1966. In the Juvenile Court thirty-eight adjudications were made in 1965 and thirty-four in 1966. Offences against the person continued to predominate as the following table of persons charged shows:

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	1965		1966	
	Adults	*Juveniles*	*Adults*	*Juveniles*
Indictable investigation cases	—	—	17	—
Other offences against the person	276	13	356	16
Praedial larceny	7	2	6	—
Malicious injuries to property	5	—	4	—
Other offences against property	64	14	61	18
Offences against revenue, road and municipal laws	128	—	131	—
Domestic proceedings	80	—	68	—
Miscellaneous minor offences	520	9	367	—
Homicide	1	—	—	—
TOTAL	1,081	38	1,010	34

The persons brought before the Court were dealt with as follows:

	Adults		*Juveniles*	
	1965	*1966*	*1965*	*1966*
Acquitted	227	320	12	4
Convicted:				
Imprisoned	47	49	—	—
Fined	266	237	2	—
Bound over or put on probation	88	97	1	1
Reprimanded and discharged	127	123	15	11
Caned	—	—	5	13

There were 233 civil processes filed in 1965 and 180 in 1966.

Coroner's Court

There were 9 inquisitions filed at the end of 1966.

POLICE

The Police are part of the Antigua-Montserrat-Virgin Islands Force. The Montserrat division is under the command of an assistant superintendent of Police; its establishment is 41 all ranks and at the end of 1966 the strength was 38. Changes in the joint Police Force are contemplated with the proposed advancement of the Constitution of Antigua (February 1967).

Traffic

The Traffic Department licensed 563 vehicles in 1965 and 720 in 1966. The following table shows the prosecutions instituted for breach of the Traffic Ordinance and Regulations and traffic accidents for the last five years:

	1962	*1963*	*1964*	*1965*	*1966*
Number of prosecutions	127	72	77	68	71
„ „ traffic accidents	53	44	64	76	121
„ „ persons injured	25	31	20	24	32
„ „ „ killed	1	1	—	1	2

The rapidly increasing use of motor vehicles throughout the island has led the department to hold lectures on road safety for drivers and the general public. Additional road signs were erected and frequent patrols were also carried out in the rural areas.

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Crime

The C.I.D. continued its work in crime detection with good results.

There was a decrease in larceny and praedial larceny in 1966 as compared with 1965, but there was an increase in breakings, woundings and assaults.

The following table shows the main types of crime during the period 1964–1966:

	1964	*1965*	*1966*
Breaking	14	6	13
Wounding and assaults	179	129	131
Larceny	2	59	46
Praedial larceny	8	18	3

PRISON

The prison has two main blocks of buildings with cell accommodation for 30 males and 6 females. The assistant superintendent of the prison is now the officer in charge of prison discipline and the rest of the staff comprises 8 warders.

In 1965, the number of persons admitted to prison was 87 of whom 38 had previous convictions. In 1966, the numbers were 90 and 42 respectively. Of those convicted in 1965, 82 were males and 5 females. The daily average population was 11.9 in 1965 and 15.28 in 1966.

Male prisoners were employed in carpentry, tailoring, shoe-repairing, baking and wood-cutting and the few female prisoners were engaged in washing, sewing and cleaning.

In 1965 the prisoners committed 59 offences against prison regulations, and 46 offences in 1966. They were dealt with as follows:

	1965	*1966*
Diet and confinement to cell	27	23
Dismissal	—	4
Reprimand	32	19

On the whole, the general health of prisoners was very good.

All prisoners with sentences exceeding one month can now earn remission at the rate of one-third of their sentence, provided that the remission does not reduce the period to less than 21 days. If necessary, the Prison Aid Board provides help for discharged prisoners who have served sentences of more than six months. Discharged prisoners who have been sentenced for six months and over are allowed 24 cents per week for the time served.

The average annual cost of each prisoner was $500 of which the average annual cost of feeding each was $400.

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Chapter 10: Public Utilities and Public Works

ELECTRICITY AND COLD STORAGE

THE Electricity Department of the Government maintained a 24-hour service in Plymouth, Kinsale, Old Road, Cork Hill and Salem during the period. A high tension line was erected between Plymouth and Belham Bridge together with sub-stations at Plymouth (step up), Richmond, Cork Hill, Old Towne and Salem. This line took over the area supplied by the separate station at Belham Bridge, which was closed down, and enabled development of the Richmond area. All generation on the west side of the island was concentrated in Plymouth. The plant on the east side was maintained to give a supply to the Leeward Islands Development Company area at Spanish Point, Bethel.

The Electricity Expansion Scheme was started in 1966 and by the end of that year 95 per cent of the work was completed. A pre-fabricated structure was erected to house three diesel-driven 8-SVA English Electric generators of 762 KW each, to give a total output of 228 MW at 400 volts 60 cycles per second. Further arrangements were made to step up to 11,000 volts and for transmission at this voltage to 34 individual sub-stations throughout the island; distribution was arranged at 400/230 volts 60 cycles per second to local areas and to Radio Antilles. There has been a steady increase in the consumption of electric current during the period under review.

Low tension reticulation was constructed around the villages of Harris, St. Patrick's, Bethel and St. John's.

The cold storage plant is under the control of the Electricity Department and was maintained throughout the period under review.

WATER SERVICES

Satisfactory general maintenance of the entire water distribution system was done throughout the period under review. New pipe lines were put in from Hope Springs. Work was done on the gauging and protection of springs, and keeping of records.

Due to the decrease in the yields of the springs throughout the island and the demand for more water for commercial and domestic use, it was found necessary to store water at nights and for periods during the day in some areas, to build up reserve.

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Under the Canadian Aid Programme six water engineers came in 1966 to work on an overall water distribution system for the island.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND MINOR WORKS

A programme of repair and maintenance work on Government buildings was carried out during the period. A dining room and cloakroom were constructed for the midwives' quarters at Harris, St. Patrick's and Salem. Three building projects were completed during the period under review.

FIRE SERVICES

A fire brigade comprising 6 policemen trained in fire-fighting methods and 23 volunteers maintained regular practices and drills during the period under review. The brigade did an excellent job in preventing the spread of a fire which threatened the centre of Plymouth in January 1966.

A small fire pump attached to a Land Rover is maintained at Harris Police Station for use at Blackburne Airport on the arrival and departure of aircraft. It is expected that these services will be improved shortly by the use of a modern Land Rover fire unit.

Chapter 11: Communications

SHIPPING

PLYMOUTH, the only seaport of entry and clearance for passengers, is an open roadstead; the port has a concrete pier completed in 1960 and is equipped with a mobile crane with a lifting capacity of seven tons.

Steamship services are provided by West Indies Shipping Service and Harrison lines. Other shipping lines which made regular calls with cargo are Atlantic Lines from New York and Florida and Blue Ribbon Line from Florida. In addition small motor vessels, schooners and sailing craft plied between Montserrat and the neighbouring islands. In 1965, 504 steamers (including motor vessels) and sailing craft entered and cleared the port of Plymouth landing a total of 2,119 passengers and 21,406 tons of cargo and embarking 2,178 passengers and loading 559 tons of cargo. In 1966, 470 steamers (including motor vessels) and sailing craft entered and cleared from Plymouth, landing a total of 1,680 passengers and 21,615 tons of cargo and embarking 1,865 passengers and loading 611 tons of cargo.

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CIVIL AVIATION

Work on the surfacing and widening of the runway at Blackburne Airfield was commenced in December 1965. During 1966 2,265 landings were made by LIAT and private aircraft disembarking and embarking 8,597 and 8,948 passengers respectively, whilst 34 tons of airfreight was landed and 12.8 tons taken out.

ROADS AND BRIDGES

There are eighty miles of main asphalted roads and seventy miles of unsurfaced secondary roads. Owing to increased traffic on the roads, they have deteriorated, and floods in the early part of December carried away many parts of the Long Ground road including three culverts and a retaining wall. During the period under review plans were made for the improvement and construction of forty miles of road.

The number of vehicles licensed was as follows:

	1965	*1966*
Motor cars	418	476
Buses and trucks	118	197
Motor cycles	8	15
Tractors	18	32
TOTAL	562	720

POSTS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The General Post Office is situated in Plymouth and there are seven sub-post offices throughout the island. There is a letter box service supplemented by a house-to-house delivery in Plymouth. Country mails are delivered at the sub-post offices by itinerant postmen and people call for their letters.

During the period under review, a twenty year franchise agreement was completed with Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Ltd., to install a modern automatic dialing telephone system. This development involves a new telephone exchange and building in Plymouth and substations at Woodlands and Bethel. The service will come into effect in early 1967. There are at present 375 subscribers on the Government owned telephone exchanges.

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Chapter 12: Press, Broadcasting, and Information Services

PRESS

Only one newspaper, the *Montserrat Mirror*, a weekly English language paper, is published in Montserrat. Copies of the *Barbados Advocate* and the *Antigua Star* are available from local distributors.

BROADCASTING

Radio Montserrat is a Government station run by a staff of five Government paid workers and assisted by one volunteer. The station broadcasts on 885 kilocycles in the medium wave band. The station is on the air for 62½ hours per week. The programmes vary, the aim being the usual one of diffusing information, education and entertainment. Arrangements are in train to introduce Associated Press News Service. The station derives some of its revenues from commercial activities.

Radio Antilles—the second largest broadcasting station in the eastern Caribbean area—is a commercial station. It broadcasts on 930 kilocycles, 322 meters, with a power of 200,000 watts, mainly towards the south and south west, to reach not only the greater part of the Antilles, but also the coast of many central American countries. The station was opened on the 23rd February, 1966.

INFORMATION SERVICE

There is no Government information service. The public is kept informed of matters of public interest by use of the press and the broadcasting stations.

Chapter 13: Local Forces

THE Defence Force is a part-time locally recruited unit of approximately one infantry platoon in strength, trained and equipped for internal security. Training is given in foot and arms drill, ceremonial drill, field craft, tactical exercises and range practices. In 1965 the

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Force held its annual training camp in Barbados. In 1966 the Force suffered a major set-back when its headquarters, containing stores and equipment, was completely destroyed by fire. The band instruments and rifles were, however, replaced in time for the Force to mount a guard of honour for the visit of Her Majesty the Queen in February 1966.

Expenditure on the Defence Force over the last four years was as follows:

	$
1963	6,283
1964	6,326
1965	7,522
1966	8,832

PART III

Chapter 1: Geography

MONTSERRAT lies in 16° 45′ north latitude and 60° 15′ west longitude 27 miles south-west of Antigua and some 40 miles north-west of Guadeloupe. It resembles a ham in shape and has a maximum breadth of seven miles. Its area is 39 square miles. The island is of volcanic origin and has three main mountain ridges—Silver Hill in the North (1,287 ft.), Central Hill in the middle of the island (2,499 ft.) and Soufriere Hills in the South (3,000 ft.).

The climate of the island is tropical and healthy, the mean maximum temperature being 86° F. The annual average rainfall is about 60 inches. The central part of the west coast receives more rain than the east coast, the north and south are dry. The incidence of rain is extremely variable, but the rainy season is usually from September to November and the dry season usually from March to June. Montserrat is windswept for the greater part of the year.

Chapter 2: History

THE island was discovered by Columbus on his second voyage to the New World in 1493. It was colonised in 1632 when a number of Irishmen who formed a part of Thomas Warner's company came across from the neighbouring island of St. Christopher (St. Kitts) and made their homes there. It was captured by the French in 1664, restored to England in 1668, capitulated to the French again in 1782 and was finally ceded to Britain in 1783.

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Chapter 3: Administration

AT the end of 1966, the Montserrat Legislative Council comprised the Administrator as President, two official members, six elected members and one nominated member as Deputy President. There is adult suffrage under the provisions of the Constitution and Elections Ordinance, 1952.

The Executive Council consists of the Administrator, who is President, two official members, the Chief Minister and two other Ministers and one member without portfolio.

Chapter 4: Weights and Measures

THE inspection of weights and measures was duly carried out as required under section 13(1) of the Weights and Measures Act (Cap. 154). During 1965 and 1966, 135 and 132 weights and measures respectively were tested by an authorised police officer. The standard measures recognised in Montserrat are as follows:

(*a*) Standard of length: the imperial yard.
(*b*) Standard of weight: the imperial pound.
(*c*) Standard of capacity: the imperial gallon.

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APPENDIX

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The Administrator, Mr. D. R. Gibbs, C.M.G., C.V.O., D.S.O., President.

Mr. H. A. Besson, Attorney-General.

Mr. P. R. Ells, Financial Secretary.

Mr. W. H. Bramble, Chief Minister, Minister of Finance and Minister for Trade and Production.

Mr. B. W. Edwards, Minister for Social Services.

Mr. P. A. Bramble, Minister for Communications and Works.

Mr. J. J. Howe, Member without Portfolio.

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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